

Mineral Industry Surveys

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ALUMINUM IN FEBRUARY 2002

The reported domestic primary aluminum production in February was 197,091 metric tons (t). The average daily production rate was 7,039 t, 4% higher than that of the previous month but 10% below the rate for February 2001.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased slightly from 64.65 cents per pound in January to 64.25 cents per pound in February, according to Platts Metals Week. On February 26, American Metal Market reported that the buying price range for processed aluminum used beverage can (UBC) scrap increased by a penny to 45 to 46 cents per pound and remained at this range through the end of the month. According to Resource Recycling's Container

Recycling Report, the average monthly transaction price for aluminum UBCs decreased from 47.3 cents per pound in January to 46.2 cents per pound in February.

Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased from 64.25 cents per pound in February to 66.50 cents per pound in March. On March 14, the American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs increased to 48 to 49 cents per pound. The price range remained at this level through the end of the month.

TABLE 1
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery 2/			Imports for consumption			Total new supply 3/	Total stocks, end of period 4/
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2001: p/	2,637	1,880	1,240 r/	3,130	2,560	683	3,240	9,010	1,300
2001:									
February	220	163	98	261	200	55	255	736	1,560
March	232	161	103	264	237	64	301	797	1,550
April	225	149	104	253	197	62	258	737	1,590
May	229	160	102	262	209	58	267	758	1,570
June	215	156	103	259	179	55	235	708	1,470
July	214	152	108	260	201	55	257	731	1,450
August	212	166	108	274	198	57	254	741	1,420
September	206	159	103	262	252	56	308	776	1,390
October	214	172	110	282	220	58	278	774	1,360
November	208	152	105	257	248	57	305	770	1,310
December	205	133 r/	93 r/	226	227	44	271	702	1,300
January-February	476	322	204	526	393	117	510	1,510	1,560
2002:									
January	210	152 r/	100	252 r/	272	58	330	792	1,380
February	197	150	97	247	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-February	407	302	197	499	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised. NA Not available.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

3/ Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

4/ Includes scrap; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

TABLE 2
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP 1/

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
2001: p/	2,050	1,530	908 r/	789	760	700	107	96	6 r/	6 r/	3,830	3,130
2001:												
February	169	128	74	64	66	62	7	7	(2/)	(2/)	317	261
March	175	131	77	67	63	58	8	7	1	1	323	264
April	163	122	79	69	59	54	9	8	(2/)	(2/)	310	253
May	177	133	71	61	64	58	9	8	(2/)	(2/)	321	262
June	169	127	72	62	67	61	10	8	1	1	317	259
July	163	121	83	72	66	60	6	5	1	1	317	260
August	172	128	81	71	71	66	10	9	(2/)	(2/)	335	274
September	170	128	78	68	63	58	9	7	1	1	321	262
October	186	139	80	70	66	61	12	11	1	1	345	282
November	171	127	74	64	60	55	10	9	1	1	316	257
December	162	120	62 r/	54	49	45	8	7	(2/) r/	(2/) r/	282 r/	226
January-February	340	257	150	130	132	123	16	14	1	1	639	526
2002:												
January	167 r/	124 r/	74 r/	64 r/	59 r/	54 r/	11 r/	10 r/	(2/) r/	(2/) r/	310 r/	252 r/
February	165	122	71	62	58	53	11	10	(2/)	(2/)	305	247
January-February	332	246	145	126	117	107	22	20	1	1	615	499

p/ Preliminary. r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN FEBRUARY 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	138,000	165,000	102,000	122,000
Integrated aluminum companies	71,000	71,000	61,600	61,600
Independent mill fabricators	48,300	58,000	44,400	53,200
Foundries	9,210	11,100	8,330	9,990
Other consumers	378	453	378	453
Total	266,000	305,000	217,000	247,000

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

	February			January-February 2/		
	Stocks, opening r/	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts 3/	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Solids	26,800	76,900	76,800	27,000	155,000	156,000
Can stock clippings	4,910	15,000	15,300	4,640	30,200	30,400
Other clippings	7,780	11,200	11,400	7,570	22,400	22,700
Borings and turnings	4,220	22,100	22,000	4,370	44,700	44,700
Dross and skimmings	3,800	38,300	38,300	3,800	76,400	76,500
Total new scrap	47,500	164,000	164,000	47,400	329,000	330,000
Old scrap:						
Used casting, sheet, clippings	9,090	31,200	31,100	9,170	63,500	63,000
Aluminum-copper radiators	2,070	2,250	2,500	1,830	4,730	5,050
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	32,600	57,800	58,400	31,900	117,000	118,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	4,700	9,440	9,550	4,590	17,900	19,100
Total old scrap	48,400	101,000	102,000	47,500	203,000	205,000
Sweated pig	215	1,130	1,130	215	2,260	2,270
Total all classes	96,200	265,000	266,000	95,100	534,000	538,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

3/ Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2002 1/ 2/

(Metric tons)

	February				January-February 3/	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	5,090 r/	1,990	1,920	5,160	4,280	3,920
380 and variations	6,860 r/	33,400	33,400	6,850	67,600	66,200
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	5,210 r/	10,100	10,100	5,210	20,200	20,200
No. 319 and variations	10,700 r/	13,200	13,100	10,800	26,100	27,000
F-132 alloy and variations	2,190 r/	2,460	2,460	2,190	4,930	4,840
Al-Zn alloys	630 r/	59	59	630	117	204
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	91	168	168	91	336	336
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	--	191	191	--	382	382
Other 4/	4,070 r/	8,740	9,010	3,800	17,300	18,600
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	7,280	16,900	17,100	7,050	34,100	34,300
Total all alloys	42,100 r/	87,100	87,400	41,800	175,000	176,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	5,670	XX	XX	11,700	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	3,690	XX	XX	7,250	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	874	XX	XX	1,760	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot 5/	XX	76,900	XX	XX	155,000	XX

r/ Revised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

1/ Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

2/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ Includes revised data from previous month(s).

4/ Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

5/ No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN JANUARY 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Scrap	Total
Argentina	14,600	(2/)	100	14,700
Australia	10,900	(2/)	--	10,900
Bahrain	4,730	779	--	5,510
Belgium	--	205	--	205
Brazil	1,090	159	31	1,280
Canada	148,000	35,700	23,000	206,000
France	27	239	732	998
Germany	20	4,140	158	4,310
Ghana	--	--	1,480	1,480
Hungary	--	628	--	628
Italy	--	115	--	115
Japan	34	874	42	951
Korea, Republic of	1	406	--	406
Mexico	409	1,290	5,210	6,920
Netherlands	54	281	400	735
Norway	59	--	--	59
Russia	62,000	2,900	2,090	67,000
South Africa	5,480	2,850	--	8,330
Spain	120	15	--	135
Sweden	--	225	21	246
Switzerland	--	13	--	13
Ukraine	--	20	--	20
United Arab Emirates	3,740	--	118	3,860
United Kingdom	46	1,070	400	1,510
Venezuela	15,300	1,230	352	16,900
Other	5,840	4,940	3,800	14,600
Total	272,000	58,100	38,000	368,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN JANUARY 2002 1/

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Scrap	Total
Australia	--	155	174	330
Belgium	20	912	40	973
Brazil	29	4,740	--	4,770
Canada	6,230	35,200	18,800	60,200
China	13	2,010	11,000	13,000
Czech Republic	--	(2/)	--	(2/)
Dominican Republic	3	136	--	139
France	9	500	--	508
Germany	260	236	--	496
Hong Kong	1	114	890	1,010
India	--	14	343	357
Israel	17	169	--	185
Italy	1	98	3	102
Japan	354	605	2,380	3,340
Korea, Republic of	16	1,450	4,950	6,410
Malaysia	(2/)	43	9	53
Mexico	10,100	9,480	4,360	23,900
Netherlands	6	102	41	149
Russia	3	13	--	16
Saudi Arabia	--	900	--	900
Singapore	3	548	--	552
Spain	--	56	--	56
Sweden	--	24	--	24
Taiwan	1	310	1,880	2,190
Thailand	--	827	20	848
United Kingdom	24	895	259	1,180
Venezuela	3	742	--	745
Other	9	2,400	213	2,620
Total	17,100	62,600	45,300	125,000

-- Zero.

1/ Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.